



Executive Department
State of Idaho

The Office of the Governor
Proclamation

State Capitol
Boise

WHEREAS, the 42nd annual observance of National Poison Prevention Week will be held March 16 through 22 with the theme: "Children Act Fast – So Do Poisons"; and

WHEREAS, all Idahoans should be aware of the ever-present dangers posed by potentially poisonous household substances; and

WHEREAS, our children too often have access to commonly used drugs and medicines and to such potentially toxic household products as polishes, cleaners, lighter fluids, anti-freeze, and paint solvents, generating about 16,000 calls to the Idaho Poison Center each year; and

WHEREAS, Idaho's official and volunteer organizations, through information and education programs, have been instrumental in awakening individuals to the need for poison prevention, including the proper use of child protection packaging and locking up poisons; and

WHEREAS, the latest national figures, which include Idaho, show continued declines in the accidental ingestion among children of household products, as well as continued decline in fatalities associated with accidental poisonings; and

WHEREAS, although our efforts have substantially reduced the incidence of childhood poisonings, it is clear that as long as one child is accidentally poisoned – and Idaho records indicate more than 50 percent of poisoning occur in children less than six years old –our efforts must continue;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DIRK KEMPTHORNE, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim March 16 through 22, 2003, to be

POISON PREVENTION WEEK

in Idaho, and I call on all our citizens, especially those working with official and volunteer organizations, to continue the efforts that have been successful up to this time until it is possible to point to the elimination of poisonings as a significant health hazard to Idaho's precious children.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this twenty-fourth day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand and three and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred twenty-seventh and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred thirteenth.

A handwritten signature of Dirk Kempthorne in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

DIRK KEMPTHORNE
GOVERNOR

A handwritten signature of Ben Isukasa in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

BEN ISUKASA
SECRETARY OF STATE